

**RESOLUTION No. 717**

**DIALOGUES ON THE FUTURE OF AGRICULTURE**

The EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, at its Forty-fourth Regular Meeting,

CONSIDERING:

That anticipating the types of changes that lie ahead is essential to develop strategies and policies to enable agriculture and agrifood systems of the Americas to overcome their challenges;

That, due to the eruption of digital technologies, agriculture and rural life are undergoing a transformation, whose sheer scale and potential implications make it necessary to establish a public policy framework to guide and shape these changes;

That there are new challenges affecting food security, human health and nutrition, such as access to healthy diets, changes in consumer habits, and a greater share of processed and ultra-processed foods in diets, among others, and that it is therefore necessary to identify the nutritional and health trends that are influencing food demands and, consequently, food security;

That climate change is one of the most pressing challenges throughout the world because, on the one hand, global warming is altering production conditions in different ecological zones and, on the other, extreme climate events are on the rise and having a negative impact on agricultural output, and that the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions has become one of the objectives of various economic activities, including agriculture;

That a series of “externalities” have impacted food production and global agricultural trade, such as the economic slowdown, increased armed conflicts, the weakening multilateral trade system and the implementation of increasingly protectionist economic strategies;

That it is necessary to monitor the evolution of agricultural structures and the composition of the labor force, as a result of population, migratory and urbanistic processes, as well as its potential implications for agricultural production and living conditions in rural areas;

That it is important to determine the role of scientific knowledge, technology and innovation in boosting agricultural production, bearing in mind the limited available arable land and new market demands, as well as to foresee disruptive developments in different areas of innovation and technology and what their impact will be;

That most countries of the Americas are faced with inadequate investment in and funding of research and development (R+D) for agriculture, as well as a growing involvement of the private sector in the development of cutting-edge technologies, and that it is therefore crucial to anticipate how investment will evolve and how the necessary financing for investment in agricultural R+D will be obtained;

That the bioeconomy plays a significant role in transforming societies and that, given the wealth and diversity of natural resources in the region, it holds great potential for agrifood systems; and

That the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) proposes to organize a series of technical dialogues to exchange ideas on the future of agriculture of the Americas and its main drivers, to inform the development of consensus strategies at the regional level and the formulation of new national policies,

#### RESOLVES:

1. To support the initiative by IICA to host a series of forums on the future of agriculture in the second half of 2024, with the participation of specialists in each of the topics to be addressed and at least two ministers of IICA Member States in each forum.
2. To urge the member countries of IICA to actively participate in this initiative to continue strengthening collective actions within the framework of the Hemispheric Partnership for Food Security and Sustainable Development.